

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A device for holding a piece in a bore, comprising:

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical chamfered opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinal by into the bore with either end leading and to be held therein by engagement of its ~~outer~~outermost surface with an inner surface of the bore, the sleeve having a longitudinal cross-section in which a cylindrical wall thickness of the sleeve is defined by outermost and innermost substantially parallel lines and the chamfered ends are defined by lines that slope from ends of the outermost line toward the innermost line; and

an annular bead inside the sleeve extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on the inner surface of the sleeve that is substantially equi-distant from the opposite ends of the sleeve and having an exposed innermost surface to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted in the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends,

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

2. (original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has a circular or oval cross-section.

3. (original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has a rectangular cross-section.

4. (currently amended) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web that is thinner than the bead in longitudinal cross-section ~~longitudinally~~ of the sleeve.

5. (original) A device according to Claim 1, wherein the bead has at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) A method of holding a piece in a bore of a body comprising:

providing a piece-holding device having a cylindrical sleeve with substantially identical chamfered opposite ends

and constructed to be inserted longitudinally into the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its ~~outer~~outermost surface with an inner surface of the bore, the sleeve having a longitudinal cross-section in which a cylindrical wall thickness of the sleeve is defined by outermost and innermost substantially parallel lines and the chamfered ends are defined by lines that slope from ends of the outermost line toward the innermost line, and having an annular bead extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on an inner surface of the sleeve that is substantially equi-distant from the opposite ends of the sleeve and having an exposed innermost surface ~~centrally between the opposite ends~~ to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted into the sleeve, the sleeve and the bead being integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic;

inserting a piece in the sleeve of the piece-holding device so that the outer surface of the piece engages the bead; and

inserting the piece-holding device in the bore so that the ~~outer~~outermost surface of the ~~piece-holding device~~sleeve engages the inner surface of the bore.

8. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the piece is inserted in the piece-holding device and then the device and the piece are inserted in the bore.

9. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the piece-holding device is inserted in the bore and then the piece is inserted in the device.

10. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is provided with at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

11. (currently amended) An assembly including a piece to be held in a bore and a device in which the piece is inserted for holding a the piece in the bore, wherein the device comprises:

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical chamfered opposite ends and constructed to be inserted ~~longitudinally~~ in the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its ~~outer~~outermost surface with an inner surface of the bore~~+~~, the sleeve having a longitudinal cross-section in which a cylindrical wall thickness of the sleeve is defined by outermost and

innermost substantially parallel lines and the chamfered ends are defined by lines that slope from ends of the outermost line toward the innermost line; and

and an annular bead inside the sleeve extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on the inner surface of the sleeve that is substantially equi-distant from the opposite ends of the sleeve and having an exposed innermost surface to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted in the sleeve ~~centrally between the opposite ends,~~

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

12. (original) An assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the piece is a bolt.

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) In combination, a body having a bore therein, a piece-holding device inserted in the bore, and a piece inserted and held by the piece-holding device, wherein the piece-holding device comprises:-

a cylindrical sleeve having substantially identical chamfered opposite ends and constructed to be inserted longitudinally into the bore with either end leading, and to be held therein by engagement of its outeroutermost surface with an inner surface of the bore, the sleeve having a longitudinal cross-section in which a cylindrical wall thickness of the sleeve is defined by outermost and innermost substantially parallel lines and the chamfered ends are defined by lines that slope from ends of the outermost line toward the innermost line;

and an annular bead inside the sleeve extending circumferentially and inwardly from a location on an inner surface of the sleeve that is substantially equi-distant from the opposite ends of the sleeve and having an exposed innermost surface to engage an outer surface of a piece inserted in the sleeve centrally between the opposite ends,

wherein the sleeve and the bead are integrally formed of resilient flexible plastic.

16. (original) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead has a circular or oval cross-section.

17. (original) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead has a rectangular cross-section.

18. (currently amended) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web that is thinner than the bead in longitudinal cross-section ~~longitudinally~~ of the sleeve.

19. (Original) A combination according to Claim 15, wherein the bead has at least one slot interrupting its circumference.

20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web that is thinner than the bead in longitudinal cross-section ~~longitudinally~~ of the sleeve.

22. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bead is connected to the inner surface of the sleeve by a web that is thinner than the bead in longitudinal cross-section ~~longitudinally~~ of the sleeve.

23. (previously presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

25. (previously presented) An assembly according to claim 11, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.

26. (previously presented) A combination according to claim 15, wherein the bead is hinged to the inner surface of the sleeve.